



Report on
One day Training on “Agroforestry Models” at VVK, Thalimalai

02.03.2023

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore

Under VVK-KVK networking, ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore organized one day training program on “Agroforestry Models” on 02.03.2023 to farmers at VVK, Thalimalai in collaboration with KVK-ICAR-MYRADA, Erode. A total of 52 farmers and seven staff from KVK-ICAR-MYRADA were participated.

In the inaugural session, Shri. M. Thirumurthy, Farm Manager- KVK-ICAR-MYRADA welcomed the gathering. Dr. A. Vijayaraghavan, Scientist-F & Nodal Officer, VVK, Thalimalai, briefed about the training program including sharing of scientific advancement in agroforestry and visit to demo trials established with QPM/clones of commercially important tree species.

Dr. P. Alagesan, Senior Scientist & Head, ICAR – KVK, MYRADA delivered the special address. He highlighted that, agroforestry is the only viable option to achieve 33% green cover and helps in doubling the farm income. Also, he informed that, maintaining agrobiodiversity of the farm fields directly help to increase in farm net productivity.

Shri. T. Ashok Kumar, DDM, NABARD delivered presidential address. He stressed the need to change and adopt the cropping pattern inclusive of trees for increasing farm income. Introduction of trees not only helps in farmer’s income but also helps in sequestering carbon and keeping environment clean. He added that, NABARD will support agroforestry projects for popularization by establishment of more demo plots and supply of quality planting materials to farmers.

Dr. A. Vijayaraghavan, Scientist & Nodal Officer presented on successful “Agroforestry Models” developed by ICFRE-IFGTB viz., Casuarina, Eucalyptus, Melia, Gmelina, Sandal, Cadamba, Bamboo, Ailanthus based models. He elaborated different agroforestry models establishment, management with economics. Also, he pointed out that, wood based industries are offering MSP for agroforestry products (pulp wood and timber) and this will encourage farmers for practicing agroforestry models.

Shri. R. Velumani, TO, delivered a talk on “Superiority of Casuarina Windbreak Clones of IFGTB for banana crop”. He elaborated about establishment and management of Casuarina windbreak model, information of released clones and its importance, how it reduces the wind speed, how this model will improve the soil fertility, etc. Also, he pointed out that, wildbreak model not only protecting the crops from heavy winds but also will provide additional income to farmers.

The participants were taken to different demo trials of TC-Teak, Calophyllum, Cadamba, Melia, Eucalyptus, Tamarind, Medicinal plants, etc. established with clones and QPM at VVK, Thalamalai. During the programme, QPM of Casuarina windbreak clone, TC-Teak and Cadamba were distributed to farmers.



Inaugural session



Participants of the training program



Talk on 'Agroforestry Models' by Dr.A Vijayaraghavan, Scientist-F



Talk on "Superiority of Casuarina Windbreak Clones" by Shri. R Velumani, T.O.



Distribution of wind break clones of Casuarina to the progressive farmers



Field demonstration of Eucalyptus clones released by IFGTB



Group photo